

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, DC

# FSIS NOTICE

40-14

8/14/14

**NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DOCUMENT FOR PRE-HARVEST  
MANAGEMENT CONTROLS AND INTERVENTION OPTIONS FOR REDUCING SHIGA TOXIN-  
PRODUCING *ESCHERICHIA COLI* SHEDDING IN CATTLE**

## I. PURPOSE

A. This notice informs inspection program personnel (IPP) that a revised FSIS document, [Pre-Harvest Management Controls and Intervention Options for Reducing Shiga Toxin-Producing \*Escherichia coli\* \(STEC\) Shedding in Cattle: An Overview of Current Research](#) is available. The revised document replaces the previous version of the guidance, *Pre-harvest Management Controls and Intervention Options for Reducing Escherichia coli O157:H7 Shedding in Cattle*, issued in May 2010.

B. The Agency's intent in issuing the May 2010 document and in re-issuing a revised document is to provide industry with a review of the literature and information on the status of pre-harvest interventions, management practices, and research. FSIS has removed statements from the document that may have recommended a particular pre-harvest intervention or practice over another. There is no regulatory requirement that establishments use the interventions or management practices outlined in this document.

C. This notice also informs Enforcement, Investigations, and Analysis Officers (EIAOs) that they are to review the information in the guidance document as part of their preparation for conducting food safety assessments (FSAs) in establishments that slaughter cattle, as described in [FSIS Directive 5100.1](#), *EIAO FSA Methodology*.

D. IPP and EIAOs need to keep in mind as they review the document that it is only guidance. It is intended only to inform industry about effective ways to address the problem of STEC shedding in cattle. The document does not establish any requirements that industry must follow.

## II. IPP RESPONSIBILITIES

A. At the next weekly meeting following the issuance of this notice, IPP at an establishment that slaughters cattle are to inform the establishment management that the revised document is available at the link provided in Section I of this notice. Also, IPP are to inform establishment management that the guidance document may be used by the establishment to review options for reducing STEC in cattle.

B. As part of the weekly meeting, IPP are to inform the establishment management that the revised document includes the following information:

**DISTRIBUTION:** Electronic

**NOTICE EXPIRES:** 9/1/15

**OPI:** OPPD

1. An overview of the current status of pre-harvest control and intervention strategies discussed in scientific literature to reduce shedding of STEC in cattle; and
2. A list of references and links that can be accessed for additional information on the subject.

C. IPP are to discuss whether the establishment is using pre-harvest control and intervention strategies that have support other than this guidance document.

D. IPP are to create a Meeting Agenda in PHIS to incorporate these notes along with other notes from the routine weekly meeting. IPP are then to create the Memorandum of Interview (MOI) from the Meeting Agenda notes documenting the routine weekly meeting as described in [FSIS Directive 5000.1](#), *Verifying an Establishment's Food Safety System*.

E. As stated above, establishments are not required to follow the interventions or management practices outlined in this document. Therefore, IPP are not to issue non-compliance records (NRs) if establishments do not follow the guidance.

### III. EIAO RESPONSIBILITIES

A. EIAOs are to review and familiarize themselves with the information in the document. The document presents a review of the literature and of the status of pre-harvest interventions, management practices, and research. It does not represent requirements that must be met.

B. EIAOs are to use the compliance guidelines as a technical resource when performing FSAs (as described in [FSIS Directive 5100.1](#)) in meat and poultry establishments.

C. EIAOs are to make the establishment management aware of the compliance guidelines as part of the compliance assistance resources EIAOs provide to meet the Agency's obligation related to the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act (SBREFA), according to the instructions in [FSIS Directive 5100.1](#).

### IV. QUESTIONS

Refer questions regarding this notice, to the Risk, Innovations, and Management Staff through [askFSIS](#) or by telephone at 1-800-233-3935. When submitting a question, use the Submit a Question tab, and enter the following information in the fields provided:

Subject Field: Enter **Notice 40-14**  
Question Field: Enter your question with as much detail as possible.  
Product Field: Select **General Inspection Policy** from the drop-down menu.  
Category Field: Select **Sampling** from the drop down menu.  
Policy Arena: Select **Domestic (U.S.) Only** from the drop-down menu.

When all fields are complete, press **Continue** and at the next screen press **Finish Submitting Question**.



Assistant Administrator  
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